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• **BOBROV, Juri Alexandrovich**

Moscow K-575, 103575 (RU)

• **IGNATOV, Leonid Yaroslavovich**

Moscow, 127635 (RU)

(30) Priority: **28.10.1998 RU 98119452**

(71) Applicant: **Optiva, Inc.**

San Mateo, CA 94402 (US)

(74) Representative: **Allard, Susan Joyce et al**

BOULT WADE TENNANT,

Verulam Gardens

70 Gray's Inn Road

London WC1X 8BT (GB)

(72) Inventors:

• **LAZAREV, Pavel Ivanovich**

Moscow, 119633 (RU)

(54) **DICHROIC POLARISER AND METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME**

(57) The invention belongs to the class of thermostable and lightfast dichroic polarizers made using thin films of dichroic organic substances, in particular, the organic dyes in which molecules of a dichroic organic substance are ordered in a crystalline lattice and which are deposited onto either a rigid or a flexible substrate surface.

The technical result consists in the fact of widening the spectral range of the polarizer operation and in simultaneous improvement of the polarizer's polarizing characteristics.

The proposed dichroic polarizer is manufactured using the film which at least partially has the crystal structure and which contains at least one dichroic organic substance with the planar-structure molecules (or molecule fragments). The dichroic substance is select-

ed such as to have at least one maximum in each of the following regions of the absorption spectrum curve: 400-700 nm and/or 200-400 nm, and 0.7-13 microns. The film order parameter S corresponding to at least one maximum in the 0.7-13 micron region of the absorption spectrum curve is no less than 0.88. This parameter is calculated from the expression

$$S = (D_{\perp} - D_{11}) / (D_{\perp} + 2D_{11}),$$

where D_{\perp} and D_{11} are the optical densities measured in the polarized light when, correspondingly, the polarizer's polarization axis is perpendicular and parallel, respectively, to the polarization plane of the spectrometer electromagnetic radiation.

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Description

[0001] The invention belongs to the class of thermostable and lightfast dichroic polarizers manufactured using thin films of dichroic organic substances, in particular, the organic dyes in which molecules of a dichroic organic substance are ordered in a crystalline lattice and which are deposited onto either a rigid or a flexible substrate surface.

[0002] The proposed dichroic polarizers may be used under crude production and operation conditions: in the automobile industry for the triplex windscreen glass production, in illuminating equipment, in the architectural and construction glass manufacture. They may also be used in the liquid-crystal (LC) displays operating at high temperatures and illumination intensity levels.

[0003] In [1], the dichroic polarizer is described which is the organic polymer-substance film containing a dichroic substance and having the crystalline lattice with the single-axis orientation coefficient no less than 70%. The dichroic-substance fraction in the polarizing film is 0.1 - 0.2% while the polarizer thickness is 40 - 170 microns. The large polarizer thickness, however, limits the field of its application. In particular, because of the large thickness, it can not be used as the internal polarizer in LC indicators. Moreover, the polarizer of this type, being effective in the visible spectrum range, can not provide high dichroism in the infrared spectrum region because the molecule planes of the dichroic substance are not oriented with respect to each other. The dichroic polarizer analogous to the proposed one is described in [2]. This polarizer is the film containing no less than 70% of at least one dichroic organic substance with the planar-structure molecules (or molecule fragments). The molecules form orientation-ordered ensembles in which the molecule planes, as well as optical-transition dipole moments lying in these planes, are oriented perpendicularly, or almost perpendicularly, to the axis of the polarizing film macroscopic orientation.

[0004] The drawback of such a dichroic polarizer lies in the fact of presence of linear threadlike particles characterized by low correlation between the dipole moment orientation in the molecules belonging to different linear particles. This does not allow to improve the polarizer optical characteristics. Moreover, because of these particles, sufficient homogeneity can not be provided on the entire polarizer-film surface during manufacturing.

[0005] The method of dichroic polarizer manufacturing analogous to the proposed technique is also described in [2]. In this method, the LC solution of an organic dye is deposited onto the substrate surface, is oriented, and then dried at 20-80°C.

[0006] The disadvantage of this method is that it does not provide sufficiently high extent of organic dye molecule orientation and, therefore, does not allow to essentially improve the polarizer optical characteristics.

[0007] The invention purpose is to improve the polarizer operation characteristics. The technical result consists in the fact of widening the spectral range of the polarizer operation and in simultaneous improvement of the polarizer's polarizing characteristics.

[0008] The invention essence lies in the following. The proposed dichroic polarizer includes a film containing at least one dichroic organic substance, the molecules or molecule fragments of the said substance having planar structures, wherein at least part of the film has a crystalline structure. At least one of the said dichroic substances is a dichroic substance with at least one maximum in its spectral absorption curve in each of the spectral ranges, 400-700 nm and/or 200-400 nm, and 0.7-13 microns. The order parameter S has a value no less than 0.8, the said parameter corresponding to at least one maximum on the spectral absorption curve in the 0.7-13 micron spectral range and being determined according to the formula

$$S = (D_{\perp} - D_{\parallel}) / (D_{\perp} + 2D_{\parallel}),$$

where D_{\perp} and D_{\parallel} are optical densities in the polarized light for, respectively, perpendicular and parallel orientation of the polarization plane of the polarizer with respect to the polarization plane of the spectrometer electromagnetic radiation.

[0009] In some cases, the order parameter is no less than 0.85. In some other cases, the order parameter has the value no less than 0.88.

[0010] When the planes of all molecules are exactly parallel to each other, the polarizer's polarization axis is perpendicular to the molecule planes. However, since scatter is in fact almost always present in the angle parameters of the molecule plane orientation, the polarization axis direction can be determined as the direction corresponding to the maximum intensity of the electromagnetic radiation flux passed through the film. This maximum intensity practically coincides with the maximum transmission coefficient determined when rotating the polarization plane of the linearly polarized electromagnetic radiation falling onto the film perpendicularly to the film surface. When the polarization axis is determined in this manner, it is not necessary to allow for the scatter in the orientation angles of dipole moments of separate molecules. The «polarization axis» term is used below in this particular sense.

[0011] The polarizer may not absorb in the visible spectral range. In this case, the order parameter is no less than 0.6 for the wavelength of at least one maximum of the spectral absorption curve in the 200-400 nm spectral range. In

some cases, the order parameter is no less than 0.75.

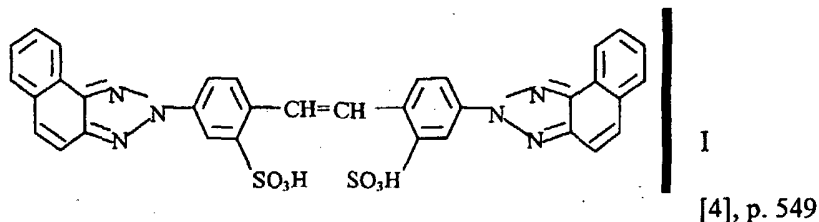
[0012] The order parameter is no less than 0.8 for the wavelength for at least one maximum of the spectral absorption curve in the 400-700 nm spectral range. In some cases, the order parameter is no less than 0.85.

[0013] The crystal structure of at least a part of the film is a three-dimensional crystalline lattice formed by the molecules of at least one dichroic organic substance. Under optimal manufacturing conditions, the crystal structure of the entire film surface can be obtained. If deposition is imperfect, at least a part of the film has crystalline structure. Perfection of the crystal structure can be experimentally estimated using the electron-diffraction patterns ([3], p.310). For the proposed polarizers, the crystal structure of at least part of the said film is a three-dimensional crystalline lattice formed by molecules of at least one dichroic organic substance, the angular diffusion of the meridional reflection is no more than 18°, the said diffusion being determined from the diffraction pattern of the said film for the electron beam incidence being normal to the polarizer surface.

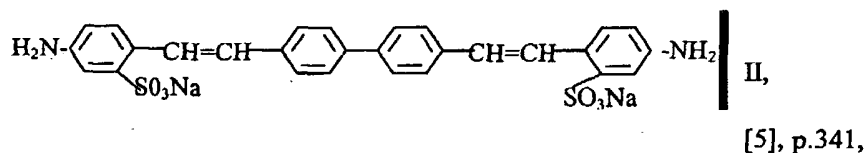
[0014] The crystalline lattice can have triclinic, monoclinic, or rhombic symmetry. The crystalline lattice parameter *b* determined from the diffraction pattern is 3.2 to 3.7 Å in the direction parallel to that of the polarization axis. In some cases, the crystalline lattice parameter *b* determined from the said diffraction pattern is 6.4 to 7.4 Å in the direction parallel to that of the polarization axis *b*, the 6.4 to 7.4 Å values being double the molecule thickness.

[0015] The organic-substance film thickness may be 0.1 to 3.0 microns. Most preferably, the organic-substance film thickness should be 0.2 to 2.0 microns.

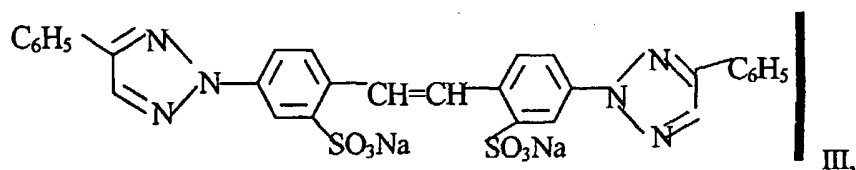
[0016] As the dichroic organic substances, organic substances may be used which have the absorption spectrum band maxima in the following regions: 400-700 nm (the visible region) and/or 200-400 nm (the near ultraviolet region), and, also, 0.7-13 microns (the near and the intermediate infrared region). The organic substance may be chosen from the class of fluorescent bleaches having the absorption band maxima in the ranges of 0.7-13 microns and 200-400 nm (however, some other substances can be used as well):



or

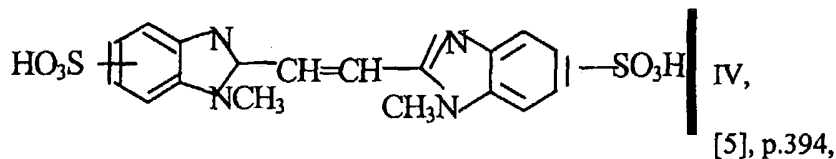


or



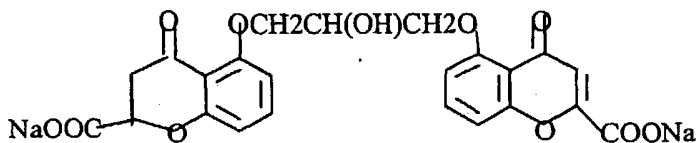
[5], p.355,

or



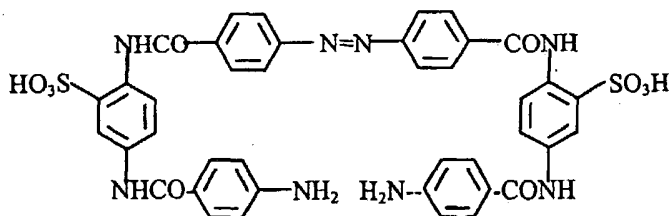
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[0017] Also, other colorless organic substance, viz. sodium chromoglycate, can be used [6] for the above-mentioned purpose.

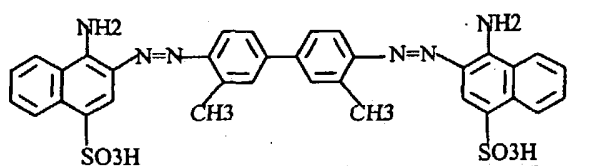


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[0018] Dichroic organic substances need to be used absorbing in the 400-700 nm region and, simultaneously, in the regions of 200-400 nm and 0.7-13 microns. The dichroic organic substance may be chosen from the class of azo dyes, for example, the "direct diazo-yellow lightfast" dye [4, p.355]:



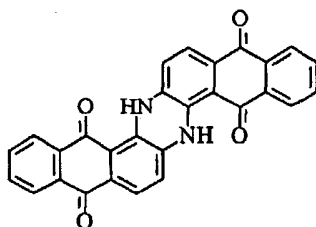
or benzopurpurin 4B [4, p.397]:



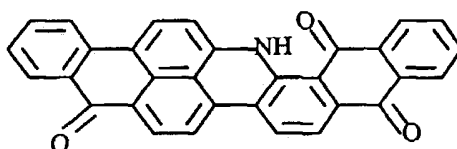
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[0019] The dichroic organic substance may also be chosen from the class of polycyclic dyes. In particular, the polycyclic dye is chosen from the sulfonation products of indanthrone [4, p.485]:

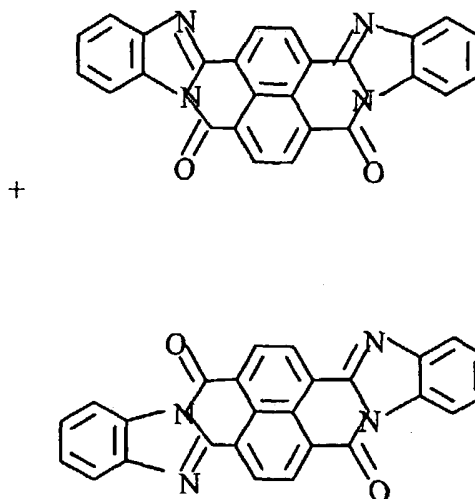
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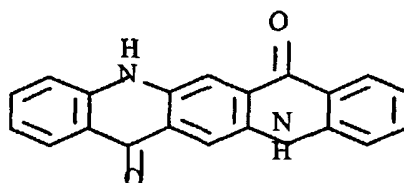
or of the «Vat Dark Green G» dye [4, p.252]:



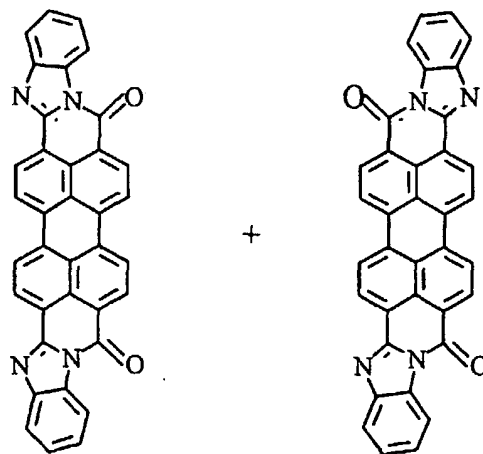
or of the «Vat Scarlet 2G» dye (a mixture of cis- and trans-isomers as well as separated isomers) [4, p.512]:



or of quinacridone [4, p.197]:



or of the dibenzoimidazole derivative of perylenetetracarboxylic acid (bis-benzoimidazo [2,1-a:1'2'-b']anthra[2,1,9-def:6,5,10-d'e'f']diisoquinoline-6,11-dione) [4, p.518, dye No. 52] (a mixture of cis- and trans-isomers):



[0020] The organic substance may also be a mixture of products of sulfonation of indanthrone, the Vat Scarlet 2G dye, and the dibenzimidazole derivative of perylene tetracarboxylic acid.

[0021] The sulfonation products can be used in the form of free sulfonic acids as well as in the form of the salts with mono-valent cations, in particular, the alkaline-metal cations or the ammonium cation. The mentioned dichroic organic substances form liquid crystals in 4-30% solutions. The LC solution of the indicated concentration can be made when the dry substance is dissolved in the solvent at 20-100°C and then cooled down to room temperature.

[0022] The technical result is achieved by applying a manufacturing technique for a dichroic polarizer including deposition of a film onto a substrate surface, the said film containing at least one dichroic organic substance with the molecules or molecule fragments of the said substance having planar structures, application of an orienting force to the said film, and drying, wherein conditions of the film deposition, the type and magnitude of the orienting force are chosen so as the order parameter for at least one maximum of absorption in the 0.7-13 micron spectral range, would have the value of no less than 0.8. In some cases, the film is deposited by spreading the liquid crystalline solution of the said dichroic organic substance onto the surface of the substrate, and dried at temperatures between 0°C and 20°C and relative humidities between 70% and 80%. In some other cases, the said film of the liquid crystalline solution of the said dichroic organic substance is dried at temperatures between 5°C and 15°C and relative humidities between 75% and 80%. The orienting force may be applied simultaneously with depositing the liquid crystalline solution film.

[0023] Absorption ability of the dichroic organic substances with the planar-structure molecules (or molecule fragments) is determined by vibrations taking place in the molecule plane. For example, the planar bending vibration C=C-H determines the maximum of the absorption spectrum curve at 1282-1286 cm⁻¹ (7.78-7.80 microns). The absorption dichroism, however, can be observed only when the planes of the organic-substance molecules are spatially ordered. It is the crystalline structure that has the highest molecule ordering extent among all phase states. The organic-substance molecules, however, usually have low symmetry which corresponds to the point group of the lowest category. Therefore, the symmetry group of the crystalline lattice in which the organic-substance molecules can be ordered may belong to one of the following low-symmetry types: triclinic, monoclinic, or rhombic. Separate molecules become the crystalline-lattice structural units, instead of the linear ensembles which «disappear» (rearrange) during crystallization when the proposed technique is embodied. Due to presence of such crystalline lattice, the polarizer film has a more homogeneous structure. Apart from the crystalline ordering, the molecule plane orientation parallel to at least one of the crystallographic axes and, accordingly, parallel to each other, should be ensured to provide high polarizing ability of the polarizer. If this is achieved, dichroism is observed in the infrared region. Then, as the deviation of the molecule planes from parallelism decreases, the order parameter for the infrared region becomes higher. The mentioned feature allows to manufacture high-quality dichroic polarizers to be used in the intermediate infrared region. On the other hand, when the extent of the molecule plane ordering is high, the scatter in the angular values of the dipole moments of the electronic transitions in the molecules of the dichroic organic substance decreases. This results in improvement of the polarizing characteristics in other spectral ranges. Thus, the polarizer can have high dichroism simultaneously in the visible spectral region of 400-700 nm and/or in the near ultra violet region of 200-400 nm.

[0024] The parallel packing of the substance molecules is experimentally confirmed by the reflections in the electron-diffraction pattern which correspond to the interplane distance equal to the thickness (or the doubled thickness) of the molecule (about 3.2-3.7 Å or, respectively, 6.4-7.4 Å).

[0025] When the proposed polarizers are manufactured as the crystalline-ordered films of organic substances, the

polarizer thickness necessary for providing the optimal polarizer optical characteristics is usually 0.1-3.0 microns (in some cases it is 0.2-2.0 microns). These thickness ranges improve the polarizer operation characteristics, in particular, the vision angles when using the polarizers in the LC displays.

[0026] The above-described crystalline-ordered thin organic-substance film can be manufactured using a number of techniques in which the film of a dichroic organic substance is deposited onto the substrate and then oriented. These techniques may include the following processes:

- crystallization from the solution on the substrate surface or during vacuum distillation. During crystallization, the organic substance can be oriented using the electromagnetic field or the anisotropy of the substrate on which crystallization is performed;
- electrolytic precipitation of the organic anionic substance on the anisotropic substrate surface acting as the anode;
- mechanical orientation of the LC solution of the organic substance performed on the substrate surface and subsequent drying under the conditions causing ordered crystallization of the organic substance.

[0027] Other techniques can also be used.

[0028] The essential point is that the conditions of film deposition should be selected. In other words, one has to select the dichroic organic substance, the deposition technique, the solution concentration, the state of the substrate surface, the drying mode, etc. It is also necessary to select the type and extent of orienting so that the order parameter corresponding to at least one absorption maximum in the spectral range of 0.7-13 microns is no less than 0.8 (it may be necessary to choose, for example, between the electric or the magnetic field, or to choose the mechanical orienting technique, etc.). Then, the molecules of the dichroic organic substance may be packed in the crystalline lattice and the diffusion of the meridional reflection determined from the electron-diffraction pattern should not exceed 18°.

[0029] As we experimentally determined, in the case of mechanical orientation of the LC solution of the dichroic organic substance performed on the substrate surface, when the drying rate is decreased (that means that the drying temperature is decreased down to 0-20°C when the relative air humidity is 70-80%, and to 5-15°C when the humidity is 75-80%), the angular diffusion of the parameters of the molecule plane orientation decreases, while the perfection of the crystalline lattice and its homogeneity on the forming polarizer surface becomes higher.

[0030] The fact that the substance, being in the form of the LC solution, is originally in the high-order state contributes, along with the drying rate decrease, to ordered crystallization. As mentioned above, the highly ordered linear ensembles, in which the organic-substance molecule planes are approximately perpendicular to the ensemble axis, are the structural units of such LC solutions. When the LC solution of the dichroic organic substance is mechanically oriented on the substrate surface, the molecule ensembles become ordered along the orientation direction with the molecules being mainly oriented perpendicularly to the orientation direction. Therefore, incorporation of the organic-substance molecules into the crystalline lattice proceeds easier during the subsequent dye evaporation from the LC solution. Then, instead of the linear ensembles "disappearing" during crystallization, separate molecules of the substance become the structural units of the crystalline lattice.

[0031] The proposed polarizer can be manufactured using a rigid planar, spherical, or cylindrical surface, either transparent or reflecting. In particular, the inorganic glass, semiconducting materials, or metallic surfaces can be used. If the polarizer is formed on the surface of the optically transparent polymer film (polyethyleneterephthalate, polymethylacrylate, triacetyl cellulose, etc.), the polarizers can be made flexible. To make the polarizers water-insoluble, one should treat them with the solutions of bi- or tri-valent metal salts. The polarizer crystal structure and its characteristics do not change during this procedure.

[0032] The protecting transparent lacquer or glue layer can be deposited over the obtained polarizing coating (PC). Using this layer, the polarizer can be glued to any surface.

[0033] The above-presented points are illustrated in the following examples.

Example 1.

[0034] The indanthrone sulfonation product (8.5 g) purified from inorganic salts, Triton-X-100 (0.2 g), PEG 3000 (0.5 g), and distilled water (90.8 g) are placed into a flask, stirred at 70°C during one hour until the dye completely dissolves, and then cooled down to room temperature. The obtained LC solution (0.5 ml) is deposited in the form of a strip onto a 10x10 cm glass plate (the strip is deposited 2 cm from the plate edge). The plate is fixed on a rectilinearly moving table. The pressure of a nonrotating roller 2 cm in diameter is applied to the plate. Thickness of the forming dye-solution layer is set with two spacers fixed on the roller with 8 cm distance between them. The table with the fixed plate is moved with 10 cm/sec velocity. The film is dried at 6-8°C under the relative humidity of 75-80%. Thickness of the obtained dye film was determined by the interference method using the «Interfako» interference microscope (Karl Zeiss) and was found to be 0.35 microns.

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[0035] The polarization transmission spectra of thin crystalline-ordered dye films were recorded using the "Hitachi EPS-033" spectrophotometer equipped with a polarizer. The iodine film polarizer having 99.9% polarizing efficiency with 40% transmission was used as the polarizer. The optical absorption of the single polarizer was measured when the polarization axis of the tested polarizer was oriented along (D_{\perp}) and perpendicularly (D_{\parallel}) to the plane of the spectrophotometer radiation polarization. The substrate sample was inserted into the reference window. The order parameter S was calculated when the maximum of the absorption spectrum curve was at 650 nm:

$$S = (D_{\perp} - D_{\parallel}) / (D_{\perp} + 2D_{\parallel})$$

For the described polarizer, the obtained value of S equaled 0.885.

[0036] The infrared spectra were recorded in the region of 500-5000 cm^{-1} using the Mixelson 100 spectrometer (Bomen) with 4 cm^{-1} resolution at room atmosphere. The spectra were recorded using the transmission method for the normal radiation incidence onto the dye film surface. The CaF_2 plates were used as the substrates. A pure CaF_2 plate was used as the reference one. The absorption (i.e. the optical density) D of the sample was calculated using the formula $D = -\lg(T_1/T_0)$ where T_1 was the transmission of the sample with the dye and T_0 was the transmission of the corresponding reference sample without the dye. To record the spectra of the film samples, a special device containing a tilting platform to which the sample holder was rigidly fixed was inserted into the spectrometer channel. The design of this special device allowed to place the substrate with the deposited dye film perpendicularly to the infrared ray axis and then to rotate the sample in this plane around the ray axis to the given angle. The error in the deflection angle determination did not exceed 0.5°. The dye film polarization measurements were performed using the standard infrared polarizer made in the form of the A1 lattice on the KRS5 window; the extent of the radiation polarization was no worse than 0.98. For the band having maximum at 1282-1284 cm^{-1} which corresponds to the CCH-group bending vibrations in the dye molecules, the measured value of the order parameter was 0.890; when transformation into the water-insoluble Ba form was performed, the S value was found to be 0.887.

[0037] The electron-diffraction patterns of the dichroic organic substances were recorded with averaging over 4 or 5 samples using the MIR-12 electron microscope and the modernized MF-2 microphotometer. To prepare the samples, the dye film, in the form of plates, was detached in methylbenzene from the substrate surface. These plates were then taken out with the supporting frames preliminarily etched in nitric acid and washed with acetone and distilled water. The films were then fixed with carbon in vacuum.

[0038] The identity periods corresponding to the diffraction maxima in the electron-diffraction patterns were determined using the TlCl_3 calibration curve (the minor periods) and calculated from the Bragg expression taking into account the wavelength value (0.0418 Å) and the object-photographic plate distance (803 mm) (the major periods). The optical-diffraction pattern (the result of the optical transformation of the electron-diffraction pattern) indicates that the regular system of the planes exists, with those planes equidistant along the axis coinciding with the polarization axis. From the electron-diffraction pattern geometry (the three-dimensional case was analyzed) in the framework of monoclinic syngony, the following crystalline-lattice parameters were found: $a=22$ Å, $b=6.7$ Å, $c=34$ Å, $\alpha=\gamma=90^\circ$, $\beta=120^\circ$, spatial group $P2_1/c$. The angular diffusion of the meridional reflection was 16.1°.

Examples 2-10.

[0039] The measured parameters of the dichroic polarizers manufactured in accordance with the proposed invention are presented in Table 1.

[0040] As can be seen from the presented characteristics, the polarizers made accordingly to the proposed invention in the form of a thin crystalline-ordered film of a dichroic organic substance provide widening of the spectral range of the polarizer operation as well as high polarizing characteristics.

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[0041]

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2. PCT WO.94/28073, 08.12.94 (PCT/US94/05493)
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6. Goldfarb, D., Labes, M.M., Luz, Z., Pourko, R., Mol. Cryst. Liq. Cryst., 87, p.259 (1982)

Claims

1. A dichroic polarizer containing a film, the said film containing at least one dichroic organic substance, the molecules or molecule fragments of the said substance having planar structures, wherein at least part of the film has a crystalline structure, at least one of the said dichroic substances is a dichroic substance with at least one maximum in its spectral absorption curve in each of the spectral ranges, 400-700 nm and/or 200-400 nm, and 0.7-13 microns, and the order parameter S has a value no less than 0.8, the said parameter corresponding to at least one maximum on the spectral absorption curve in the 0.7-13 micron spectral range and being determined according to the formula

$$S=(D_{\perp}-D_{\parallel})/(D_{\perp}+2D_{\parallel}),$$

where D_{\perp} and D_{\parallel} are optical densities in the polarized light for, respectively, perpendicular and parallel orientation of the polarization plane of the polarizer with respect to the polarization plane of the spectrometer electromagnetic radiation.

2. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 1, wherein the order parameter has the value no less than 0.88.
3. A dichroic polarizer of any of Claims 1 or 2, wherein the crystal structure of at least part of the said film is a three-dimensional crystalline lattice formed by molecules of at least one dichroic organic substance, the angular diffusion of the meridional reflection is no more than 18° , the said diffusion being determined from the diffraction pattern of the said film for the electron beam incidence being normal to the polarizer surface.
4. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 3, wherein the crystalline lattice parameter b determined from the said diffraction pattern is 3.2 to 3.7 Å in the direction parallel to that of the polarization axis.
5. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 3, wherein the crystalline lattice parameter b determined from the said diffraction pattern is 6.4 to 7.4 Å in the direction parallel to that of the polarization axis.
6. A dichroic polarizer of any of Claims 1 through 5, wherein the organic-substance film thickness is 0.1 to 3.0 microns.
7. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 6, wherein the organic-substance film thickness is 0.2 to 2.0 microns.
8. A dichroic polarizer of any of Claims 1 through 7, wherein the order parameter is no less than 0.6 for the wavelength of at least one maximum of the spectral absorption curve in the 200-400 nm spectral range.
9. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 8, wherein the order parameter is no less than 0.75.
10. A dichroic polarizer of Claims 8 or 9, wherein the said organic substance is chosen from the class of fluorescent bleaches.
11. A dichroic polarizer of Claims 8 or 9, wherein the order parameter is no less than 0.8 for the wavelength of at least one maximum of the spectral absorption curve in the 400-700 nm spectral range.
12. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 8, wherein the order parameter is no less than 0.85.
13. A dichroic polarizer of Claims 11 or 12, wherein the dichroic organic substance is chosen from the class of azo dyes.
14. A dichroic polarizer of Claims 11 or 12, wherein the dichroic organic substance is chosen from the class of polycyclic dyes.
15. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 14, wherein the polycyclic dye is chosen from the sulfonation products of indanthrone, or of the Vat dark green G dye, or of the Vat Scarlet 2G dye, or of quinacridone, or of the dibenzoimidazole derivative of perylene tetracarboxylic acid.
16. A dichroic polarizer of Claim 14, wherein the organic substance is a mixture of products of sulfonation of indanthrone, the Vat Scarlet 2G dye, and the dibenzoimidazole derivative of perylene tetracarboxylic acid.

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- 5 17. A manufacturing technique for a dichroic polarizer including deposition of a film onto a substrate surface, the said film containing at least one dichroic organic substance with the molecules or molecule fragments of the said substance having planar structures, application of an orienting force to the said film, and drying, wherein conditions of the film deposition, the type and magnitude of the orienting force are chosen so as the order parameter for at least one maximum of absorption in the 0.7-13 micron spectral range, would have the value of no less than 0.8.
- 10 18. A manufacturing technique of Claim 17, wherein the said film is deposited by spreading the liquid crystalline solution of the said dichroic organic substance onto the surface of the substrate, and dried at temperatures between 0°C and 20°C and relative humidities between 70% and 80%.
- 15 19. A manufacturing technique of Claim 17, wherein the said film of the liquid crystalline solution of the said dichroic organic substance is dried at temperatures between 5°C and 15°C and relative humidities between 75% and 80%.
- 20 20. A manufacturing technique of Claims 18 or 19, wherein the orienting force is applied simultaneously with depositing the liquid crystalline solution film.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT / RU 99 / 00400A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER ⁶:

IPC 7: G02B 5/30, 1/08, B29D 11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC6

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7: G02B 1/08, 5/00, 5/30, 27/28, B29D 7/00, 7/01, 11/00, C09B 31/47

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 94/28073 A1 (RUSSIAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP) 8 December 1994 (08.12.94), the abstract, the claims.	1-20
A	GB 2162790 A (MITSUI TOATSU CHEMICALS INCORPORATED) 12 February 1986 (12.02.86), the abstract, the claims.	1-20
A	WO 97/21123 A1 (POLAROID CORPORATION) 12 June 1997 (12.06.97), the abstract, the claims	1-20
A	EP 0198082 A1 (MITSUI TOATSU CHEMICALS INCORPORATED) 22 October 1986 (22.10.86), the abstract, the claims	1-20
A	SU 1778731 A1 (MOSKOVSKOE NAUCHNO-PROIZVODSTVENNOE OBIEDINENIE "NIOPIK"), 30 November 1992 (30.11.92).	1-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
17 January 2000 (17.01.00)Date of mailing of the international search report
3 February 2000 (03.02.00)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

RU

Facsimile No.

Authorized officer

Telephone No.